

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 8th, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. with Norman Winkler, Chairman, John Pavey, Gerald Mohr, Warren Norris, Bruce Levi, Kevin Spilman, Jerry Kent, Leigh Morning, Attorney, and Deborah Adams, Auditor in attendance.

Chairman, Norman Winkler called the meeting to order. Minutes of the November 10th, 2009 meeting were approved on a motion by John Pavey, seconded by Kevin Spilman. Motion carried.

HEALTH

Dr. Davis Ellis, Health Officer, along with Dr. Craig Fenimore, Health Board President, appeared before the council to share their concerns regarding the 2009 budget and the cuts made by the state. Deborah Adams, Auditor, informed both Dr. Ellis and Dr. Fenimore that she would contact the state and discuss their situation.

RUSH MEMORIAL AMBULANCE

Brad Smith, CEO of Rush Memorial Hospital, appeared before the council outlining the November 2009 Rush Memorial Hospital Ambulance report. Smith reported that ambulance funds available from ambulance expenses ending 2008 are \$199,601.00 the estimated funds available to the county from ambulance expenses up thru November 2009 are \$101,190.00 The cash funds that can be returned to the county can be deducted from the final contract ambulance agreement payment

Smith discussed future budget challenges and suggested that the council should look at combining resources instead of having separate entities.

LINE 2 REDUCTION

The council reviewed the submitted second series of line 2 reductions to the current 2009 budget. Office holders and department heads offered from within their department budgets enough to meet the state mandated budget cuts.

Jerry Kent made the motion to approve and sign Resolution 2009-20, John Pavey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The auditor will send a letter to office holders and department heads thanking them again for their efforts.

HIGHWAY

John Pavey made the motion to reimburse the highway department from county general their overpayment of employer portion of employee health insurance. Gerald Mohr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

John Pavey made the motion to approve and sign the 2010 Salary Ordinance #2009-2. Jerry Kent seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Gerald Mohr made the motion allowing the auditor to make year end emergency appropriation transfers. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CORONER

John Pavey made the motion to pay off the coroner vehicle lease contract early. Jerry Kent seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FAMILY & CHILDREN FUND

Kevin Spilman made the motion to approve Resolution 2009-21 A Resolution transferring money to the Rush County Rainy Day Fund. Gerald Mohr seconded the motion. Motion carried.

John Pavey made the motion to approve the additional appropriation of \$386,650.00 from the Rainy Day Fund. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Motion carried. Deborah Adams, auditor, reported that the welfare bond will be paid off early.

HOSPITAL BOARD

Gerald Mohr reported that seven (7) candidates had submitted letters of interest as to being appointed to the Rush Memorial Hospital Board. Gerald Mohr and Kevin Spilman served on a placement committee. Mohr made the motion to appoint Kipland Burkett to a two year term on the Rush Memorial Hospital Board. Bruce Levi seconded the motion. Voting AYE were John Pavey, Gerald Mohr, Bruce Levi, Kevin Spilman, Jerry Kent and Norman Winkler. Voting NAY was Warren Norris. Motion carried.

I-T

Randy Herbert, I-T Technician, reported on the transition of the E-911 servers. Herbert reported that the awarded grant application will reimburse 60% of the project costs. Herbert informed the council that Kimball and Associates have been contracted to look over the past three years of charges. The council shared their support with Herbert as to proceeding with the project.

SHERIFF

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported forty-six (46) inmates currently being housed in the Rush County jail.

Sherwood reported that the city paved black top alley located on the west side of the jail has been smoothed and corrected to avoid the pooling of water around the jail building.

Sherwood reported that county dog warden Larry Coffey will be leaving the county at the end of the year. The dog warden position averaging twenty-five (25) hours weekly is currently a part time position Sherwood explained. Following further discussion, the council encouraged Sherwood to advertise and fill the position.

COUNTY EXTENSION

Kristi Amos, County Extension Educator-Supervisor, invited the council to attend a workshop on “Recession Recovery and Indiana Government Budgets”. Professor Larry DeBoer, Purdue University, Agricultural Economics will be the instructor. The program will be delivered via video streaming on Wednesday, December 16th from 2:00pm – 4:30pm.

E.C.D.C.

John Pavey provided an economic update to the council members. Discussion was held regarding the Cherry Street project and the proposed TIF to the project. The council had received from Brad Buening, Executive Director of the Rush County E.C.D.C. proposed schedules, project costs and funding as prepared by Umbaugh & Associates. Further discussion was held that the EDIT (Economic Development Income Tax) is to be focused on the funding of Rush Memorial Ambulance service and that there are no funds available for the Cherry street project.

MOSCOW COVERED BRIDGE

Jerry Sitton provided an update to the progress of the reconstruction of the Moscow Covered Bridge.

Motion to adjourn was initiated by Jerry Kent. Bruce Levi seconded the motion, motion carried.

Norman Winkler, Chairman

John Pavey

Gerald Mohr

Warren Norris

Bruce Levi

Kevin Spilman

Jerry Kent